

Claims

1. A method of providing data, comprising the steps of:
5 defining a predefined part for use in a CAD model processed by a CAD program;
said data comprising a plurality of insertion point specifications;
each insertion point specification (defining one possible way of inserting said predefined part into said CAD model) with respect to a location and an orientation of a
10 said predefined part for insertion into said CAD model.
2. The method of Claim 1, wherein each insertion point specification comprises a location specification defining a location of an insertion point of said predefined part and an orientation specification defining an insertion coordinate system of said predefined
15 part.
3. A method of using data, comprising the steps of:
defining a predefined part for use in a CAD model processed by a CAD program;
20 said data comprising a plurality of insertion point specifications;
each insertion point specification defining one possible way of inserting said predefined part into said CAD model with respect to a location and an orientation of a said predefined part for insertion into said CAD model.
- 25 4. The method of Claim 3, wherein each insertion point specification comprises a location specification defining a location of an insertion point of said predefined part and an orientation defining an insertion coordinate system of said predefined part.
5. The method of Claim 3, wherein one insertion point of said plurality of insertion
30 point specifications is selected for inserting said predefined part into said CAD model.
6. The method of Claim 4, wherein said predefined part is inserted into said CAD model such that the location of said insertion point of the selected insertion point specification matches a reference point in said CAD model and the orientation of said

insertion coordinate system of the selected insertion point specification (86, 88) matches a reference coordinate system in said CAD model.

7. The method of Claim 5, further comprising the step of:

5 defining and/or changing the size of the predefined part, wherein the selected insertion point remains a fixed point when the size of the predefined part is defined and/or changed.

8. A CAD program adapted for employing the method of Claim 3.

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9. An apparatus, comprising: at least one computer, said computer being programmed for performing the steps of the method of Claim 3.

10. A computer readable data medium, comprising:

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data defining a predefined part for use in a CAD model processed by a CAD program;

said data comprising a plurality of insertion point specifications;

each insertion point specification defining one possible way of inserting said predefined part into said CAD model with respect to a location and an orientation of a
20 said predefined part for insertion into said CAD model.

11. The computer readable data medium of Claim 10, each insertion point specification comprising:

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a location specification defining a location of an insertion point of said predefined part; and

an orientation specification defining an insertion coordinate system of said predefined part.